

# Gift books 2019 & devotions



Abingdon Press® Gift Books



The new Abingdon Press Gift Books line is dedicated to acquiring stand-out authors whose creativity and writing inspires your readers.

We publish beautifully crafted devotionals and gift books that appeal to many customers.

Our 2019 books include:

***7 Days of Christmas*** by Jen Hatmaker

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***Heart & Home*** and ***Heart & Home for Christmas***

by Victoria Duerstock

PAGE 5

***Girl Be Brave*** by Cheryl Hale

PAGE 11

***Dear Daughters*** by Susie Davis

PAGE 15

***In the Quiet of the Day***

PAGE 19

***In the Light of the New Day***

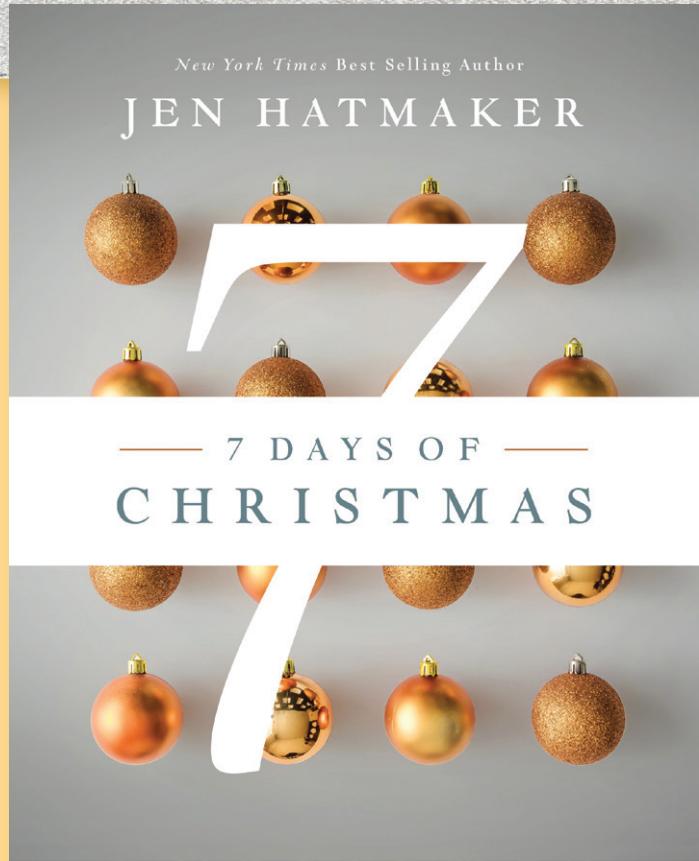
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**JEN HATMAKER**, sought-after speaker, Big Sister Emeritus, and Chief BFF, is the beloved author of eleven Bible studies and books, including *New York Times* bestsellers *For the Love* and *Of Mess and Moxie*. Jen hosts the award-winning *For The Love Podcast* and leads a tightly knit online community where she reaches millions of people each week in addition to speaking at events all around the country. Jen and her hubby, Brandon, are founders of Legacy Collective, a giving community that grants millions of dollars around the world. The couple lives on the outskirts of Austin, Texas, with their 5 kids—Gavin, Sydney, Caleb, Ben, and Remy—in a 1910-era farmhouse that they overhauled as stars of the HGTV series *My Big Family Renovation*.



Inspired by and adapted from her breakout book *7: An Experimental Mutiny Against Excess*, *7 Days of Christmas* takes Hatmaker's social experiments in seven key areas—food, clothes, spending, media, possessions, waste, and stress—and turns them into thoughtful and practical generosity that captures the true spirit of Christmas.

*7 Days of Christmas* covers seven days during the Christmas season to practice both generosity and restraint in the areas related to the book. It will contain snippets of Jen's journey throughout to offer insight, humor, ideas, facts, and encouragement for the reader to consider while embracing this change, if only for 24 hours.

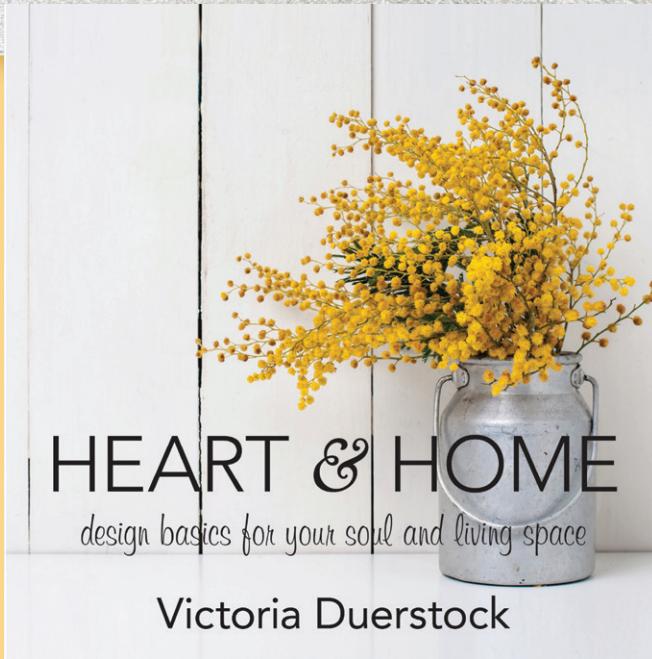
We'll see the reasons why each area is important to Jen and also applicable to most families. We'll also see how that particular area of excess impacts the family unit, the community, and the world at large—complete with ideas on how to reduce thoughtless consumption and consider other practices that lead to less stuff but more joy.

**7 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS** Available OCTOBER 1, 2019

9781501888274 | \$21.99 | Jacketed Hardback with ribbon | Two-color interior | 5.5 x 7 | 192 pages



**VICTORIA DUERSTOCK** is a writer, blogger, teacher, and speaker. Her mission is to inspire hope and ignite bigger dreams for God's purpose in each of our stories. She has a master's degree in music, but ended up working in the furniture industry for more than twenty years and loves to make connections between our home environments and our spiritual lives. Victoria writes at Encouraging Women Today, Everything's Gravy, Creative Corner, and Serious Writer Academy and also has contributed to devotionals for Worthy. She lives in Nesbit, Mississippi, with her husband, and they have two children.



These short devotions draw a clear connection between the basics of interior design and scripture to encourage spiritual growth. The devotions in both books include a scripture, reflective writing, a prayer, and a design or lifestyle tip accompanied by a gorgeous photograph or a designed space.

In *Heart & Home: Design Basics for Your Home and Living Space*, Victoria writes 90 devotionals about topics such as unity and harmony, focal points, balance, and negative space. In *Heart & Home for Christmas: Celebrating Joy in Your Living Space*, she understands that all the tasks and stress of the holiday season make it easy to forget true joy. In these 100 devotionals, she connects easy decorating tips with spiritual thoughts for reflecting the true spirit of Christmas in your home and actions.

*"As I read Heart & Home, I was captivated not only by the beauty and elegance on every page and in every word, but more importantly I was inspired to see how spaces can transform lives. Creating a home is a sacred undertaking. Building a home that inspires, comforts, engages, and transforms hearts leads to healthy individuals, families, and communities. I was challenged to think about how our homes can be used to focus us on God; how every color, design, and object can strengthen our soul. I hope that Victoria's book will also inspire you and refresh your heart and home."*

—Robert Wallstrom, CEO Vera Bradley

### HEART & HOME

Available APRIL 16, 2019

9781501881039 | \$19.99 | Hardback

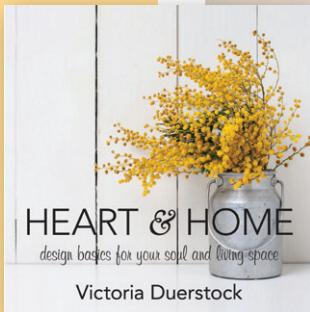
Four-color throughout | 6.75 x 6.75 | 192 pages

### HEART & HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Available SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

9781501885433 | \$19.99 | Hardback

Four-color throughout | 6.75 x 6.75 | 208 pages



*Create in me a clean heart,  
O God, and renew a right spirit again in  
me so that I can dwell in your presence and at  
your feet.*



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## Clean It Up and Clear It Out

*Let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith,  
having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.*

HEBREWS 10:21-23

One of the greatest design fixes we must all employ from time to time: declutter the space and clean it up! The longer we inhabit a place the things we accumulate can take over. Sometimes when all the little accessories and pieces are lined up in a hallway or somewhere new, you get an idea for a new spot that piece would work. But when we get used to seeing something in the same place we don't even see it anymore.

I think sin is the same way in our hearts. When we are not paying attention, we get cluttered. The problem with sin is that it stifles our relationship with God, and we require a cleansing. Thank goodness He is faithful and promises to restore us when we confess and forsake. Let's be diligent to root out and weed out the clutter of sin from our hearts.

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### design tip

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A clean space is refreshing and healthy. A sense of calm fills us when a deep clean has been done.

This is a great time to assess if you need to purchase anything new or remove excess to keep some openness to your space.

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#### SEASONAL DÉCOR TIP

While there are a variety of options for tree toppers, I personally love placing a star at the top of my Christmas tree. It reminds me that the star was a sign for those that were seeking and that He may be found. At the highest point of our tree, the star reminds us He may be found.

# STAR OF WONDER, STAR OF NIGHT

*“a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel . . .”*

NUMBERS 24:17 (ESV)

Prior to the birth of Christ, the prophecy of the Messiah's birth was taught not only to the Jews, but the people surrounding them. The Babylonian captivity was an event that brought great distress to the Jewish nation, but God redeemed this painful time by placing teachers of the Jewish tradition and the ancient manuscripts among Gentile and Heathen nations so God could use them to also influence future generations and accomplish His purpose.

The night of Christ's birth, the sky was illuminated with a bright shining star—signaling to the world that the Christ child had been born. It was a signal for all those seeking Him. The star reminds us that He is available to be found by those who seek Him. I am reminded that sometimes the most difficult moments in our lives are opportunities for God to step in and grow our faith. God receives the greatest glory in our lives and it's more evident when God turns our difficulties into blessings. While the Jewish captivity was not planned or wanted, God used the situation for good by allowing the next generations to seek Him.

*Lord, thank You for allowing those who seek You to find You  
and for redeeming our darkest hours to bring You glory.*



**CHERYL HALE** is a writer, blogger, and business owner who founded GirlBeBrave.com and accompanying product line in 2016. She started the Girl Be Brave community—which has more than 100,000 followers—after reading a note that her grandmother Frances left her mother in her Bible, which ended with “girl be brave.” Cheryl’s hope is that Frances’ words reach every woman who needs a reminder of her own bravery. She lives in Mobile, Alabama.



When Cheryl Hale discovered a note from her grandmother, written to her mother in a family Bible, ending with the phrase "girl be brave," she found the inspiration she needed to push through her fear and chart a course for her life.

In *Girl Be Brave: 100 Days to Chart Your Course*, the 100 reflections inspired by this note encourage women to face their fears, embrace their future, and discover that they are braver than they ever thought possible.

**GIRL BE BRAVE** Available SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

9781501885402 | \$18.99 | Casebound Hardback with ribbon | Two-color interior | 5.5 x 7 | 224 pages



100 DAYS  
TO CHART YOUR COURSE

CHERYL HALE



A black and white photograph of Cheryl Hale. She is smiling broadly, showing her teeth. She has short, wavy hair and is wearing large, over-the-ear headphones. She is wearing a dark zip-up jacket and a watch on her left wrist. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a window or a metal structure.

HARD  
THINGS  
MAKE  
YOU  
BEAUTIFUL



day 3

## HARD THINGS MAKE YOU BEAUTIFUL

Yes, you heard that right. I believe it. When we go through difficult times, we grow; as we grow, we are humbled. The more humbled we are, the more human connections we create. The ability to connect to others on this level makes you beautiful because human connection is beautiful.

We learn from a young age to run away from hard stuff; we learn how to avoid pain. But the problem with living to avoid pain is that it also stops you from living fully.

How many times have we avoided pain by binging on a half-gallon of ice cream? Maybe instead of gorging ourselves on instant pleasures, we should press into the pain and be present in those difficult situations. We learn what we can and grow through it.

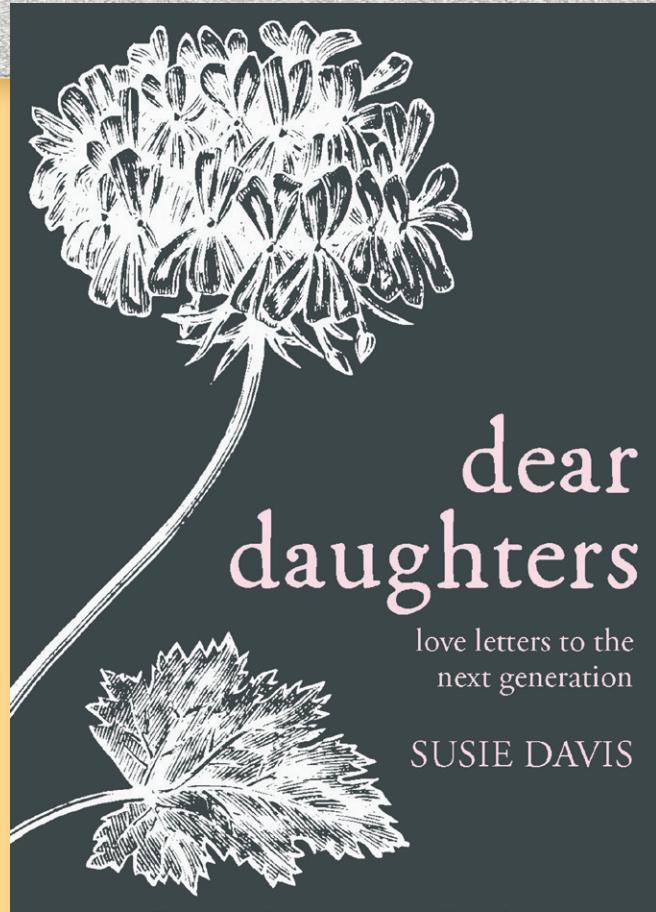
I've often found that on the other side of those hard things, I'm more aware and empathetic. Others are going through the same types of pain. At least now I can see them because

**I ALSO SEE ME.**

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**SUSIE DAVIS** is an author, speaker, blogger, and pastor's wife. She has been married to Will Davis, Jr. for 31 years, and they have three children. In addition to founding and leading churches in Texas, Susie traveled and spoke nationally with Vicki Courtney's Virtuous Reality Ministries for five years. She blogs at her website and has written for *Austin Woman Magazine*.

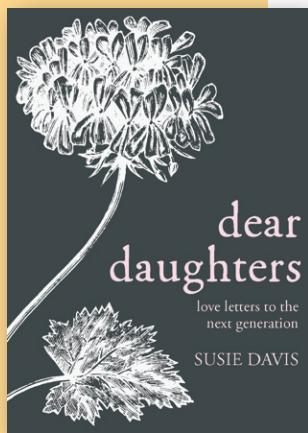


With *Dear Daughters*, Susie Davis creates a bridge between two groups of women—dear daughters and spiritual mamas. Dear daughters are young women in search of spiritual guidance and spiritual mamas are women just a little further down the road with age-old wisdom to share. Each group has valuable insight for the other and the hope is that the reader will invite someone to come alongside them, pore over the included letters together, and pass along wisdom and advice that will make both lives more beautiful, wherever they are in their God story.

Through topical chapters and space for journaling, *Dear Daughters* shares wisdom and inspiration for any woman.

**DEAR DAUGHTERS** Available APRIL 16, 2019

9781501881060 | \$19.99 | Linen-wrapped Hardback with ribbon | One-color interior | 5 x 7 | 208 pages





## *Chapter Four:*

# On Your Relationship with Your Father

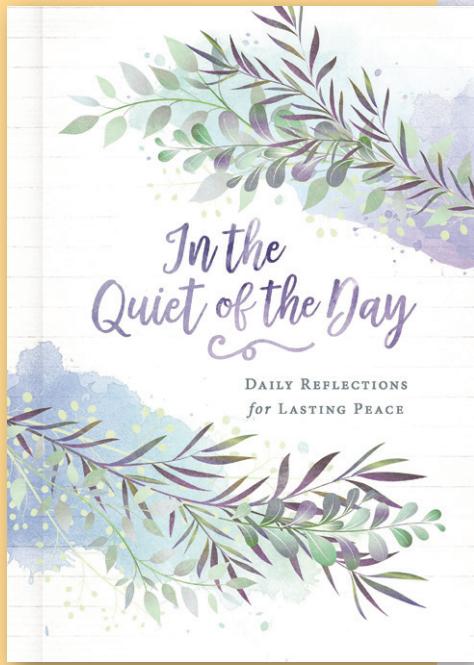
*This is and has been the Father's work from the beginning – to bring us into the home of his heart.*

— George Macdonald

*A*s I write this, Father's Day is just around the corner. I look forward to celebrating my 85-year-old father. He is a good man. And he loves me. I know this because he tells me he loves me, and he tells me he's proud of me and my family every chance he gets.

He is a spiritual man. Loves God and shares his faith with anyone who will listen. He is a provider and protector. Extremely demonstrative in his faith and love of family. I feel very fortunate to have him in my life. Humbled, really, that this is how things worked out for me. I have come to realize, sadly, that my situation is rare.

Every day I meet women who



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## God's Promises of Protection

*I raise my eyes toward the mountains. Where will my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth. God won't let your foot slip. Your protector won't fall asleep on the job. No! Israel's protector never sleeps or rests! The LORD is your protector; the LORD is your shade right beside you. The sun won't strike you during the day; neither will the moon at night. The LORD will protect you from all evil; God will protect your very life. The LORD will protect you on your journeys—whether going or coming—from now until forever from now.*

—Psalm 121



We often struggle with the belief that God is with us, watching over us and comforting us in our sorrows. It is good to remind ourselves that he is indeed with us. What evil will the Lord protect you from? Perhaps he'll safeguard your thoughts so you won't wander too far

away from him. Perhaps he'll send angels to guide you so that you will walk on solid ground.

Come to him whenever you have doubts. Engage him in conversation as you would a close friend. Bring him into your heart so nothing can come between you. When you do, you'll feel his presence in everything. You'll be aware of his helping hand and loving embrace. Give him thanks and praise.

*B*elieve that God watches and protects you and that he wants a relationship with you.

### IN THE QUIET OF THE DAY

*Lord, thank you for keeping watch over me. Protect me from anything that could harm my relationship with you. Help me be all that you want me to be in the coming years. Amen.*

These 100 devotions around the topic of peace inspire the reader with scripture, thoughtful insights, and prayer.

### IN THE QUIET OF THE DAY

Available APRIL 2, 2019

9781501881091

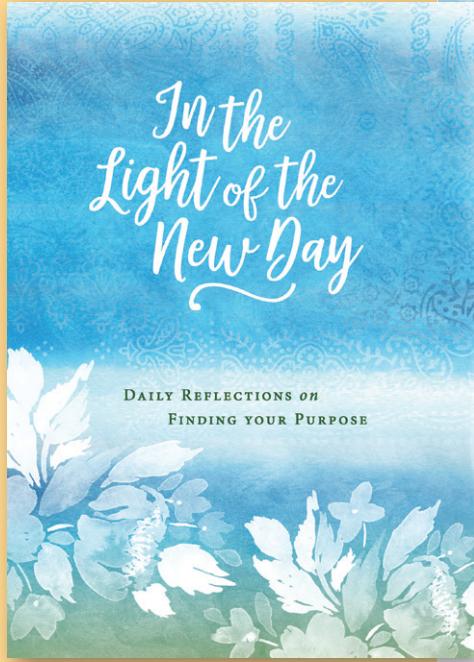
\$14.99

Padded Hardback

Two-color interior

5 x 7

208 pages

A delicate, light blue floral illustration featuring roses and leaves, positioned in the top right corner of the page.

## What Does Your Heart Say?

*God doesn't look at things like humans do. Humans see only what is visible to the eyes, but the LORD sees into the heart.*

—1 Samuel 16:7

What if we only saw each other as human beings doing our best to make our way in the world? What if we truly saw each other from the perspective of our heart's view? If we did that, we'd be a lot closer to following the example of Jesus. We'd be more open to meeting people where they are in their walk of faith or their search for meaning. We could let go of doubt and misguided judgments. We could stop searching for hidden motivations.

We could simply let people breathe and live and be all they were meant to be. We could give them what we want for ourselves. We'd be on the cusp of understanding what real love is all about.

Do an experiment today. Make it your intention to look past the way someone is dressed, or the way someone pronounces or

## IN THE LIGHT OF THE NEW DAY

misprounounces their words. Look beyond the fact that someone isn't necessarily attractive in your usual terms, and look inside yourself.

Look within yourself and see what your heart knows that you have yet to discover. At the end of the day, think about the people you met and pray for them. Ask

**L**ook past the outward appearances of people you meet today and understand your commonality.

God to open your heart even more for the day after this one. Look to the eyes of your heart and see if you can make a difference.



## RENEWED FOR A PURPOSE

*Lord, thank you for not seeing us the way we often see one another. Remind me that I need to do more looking with my heart when it comes to being a better friend and a better servant. Amen.*

These 100 devotions around the topic of purpose inspire the reader with scripture, thoughtful insights, and prayer.

## IN THE LIGHT OF THE NEW DAY

Available SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

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\$14.99

Padded Hardback

Two-color interior

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